

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 119849
ORIGIN EA-12

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:RRICH:AP

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 119849

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPR, PGOV, KS, US

SUBJECT: ROK EMBASSY ISSUES STATEMENT RESPONDING TO
JAWORSKI

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT ISSUED LATE MAY 10 BY
ROK EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IN RESPONSE TO PUBLIC STATEMENT
ISSUED EARLIER TODAY BY HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE SPECIAL
COUNSEL JAWORSKI.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

TITLE: STATEMENT BY THE SPOKESMAN OF THE EMBASSY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

MR. LEON JAWORSKI, SPECIAL COUNSEL TO THE ETHICS COMMITTEE,
HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT WE COULD NOT MEET HIS REQUEST TO
BRING FORMER AMBASSADOR KIM DONG JO FOR INTERROGATION AS
WELL AS FOR STATEMENTS UNDER OATH. IT IS A CLEAR MATTER
OF RECORD THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA HAS
FULLY COOPERATED WITH THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE
BRANCHES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE
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EFFORT TO INVESTIGATE VARIOUS ALLEGATIONS INVOLVING
MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS AND KOREANS. WE HAVE DONE
SO TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE OUT OF A STRONG DESIRE

TO SAFEGUARD AND STRENGTHEN THE TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP
BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, BRINGING A FORMER
AMBASSADOR TO BE INTERROGATED AND TO MAKE STATEMENTS UNDER

OATH IS UNIVERSALLY ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE A VIOLATION OF
INTERNATIONAL LAW AS WELL AS OF ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL
PRACTICES. IT IS A STRONG BELIEF OF MY GOVERNMENT THAT
TO MEET MR. JAWORSKI'S REQUEST IN THIS REGARD WOULD NOT
SERVE THE INTEREST OF MY COUNTRY, OR OF THE UNITED
STATES, OR OF OUR MUTUAL FRIENDSHIP. IT WOULD BE A
DANGEROUS PRECEDENT IN THE CONDUCT OF INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS. I WISH TO REITERATE ONCE AGAIN THE POSITION
OF MY GOVERNMENT AS A STRONG ALLY OF THE UNITED STATES
THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO RENDER ANY AND ALL COOPERATION
WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE PRACTICE AND LAW OF NATIONS.
END TEXT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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